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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Trolling Rights Secured for Visually Impaired

Madison, WI – Today, Governor Walker signed SB 298 into law as 2015 Wisconsin Act 363, requiring the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to issue trolling permits free of charge to visually impaired persons.

Authored by Representative Jesse Kremer (R-Kewaskum) and Senator Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville), Act 363 adds to current law persons whose eyesight is impaired such that a doctor certifies newspaper print is unreadable without corrective lenses. Formerly, DNR issued no-cost trolling permits to amputees or those who had permanent or substantial loss of function in one or both arms or hands.

In response, Rep. Jesse Kremer (R-Kewaskum) issued the following statements:

“Although the state currently has a pilot program allowing trolling for all, this new law will ensure that should the program expire, the visually impaired will continue to have access to these permits.

“I would like to thank my friend and high school classmate Tim Geshke for bringing this issue to the forefront, ensuring that Wisconsin’s visually impaired anglers will no longer be ‘left in the wake’ when partaking in one of our state’s favorite pastimes.”

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